

Rain and Mud—Inside and Out—All Quiet—Sherman—Petersburg—City Point and the Soldiers.
From Our Special Correspondent.

IN FRONT OF PETERSBURG, Va.,
Nov. 24, 1864.

An almost impenetrable cloud of mist overshadows the army. The raps and trenches are deep with mud, and the direction of roads is marked by the course of miniature rivers rolling lazily along, and growing deeper every hour from the flood, which for four days and nights has fallen unintermittently. Through the sea of mud bipeds perambulate with an evident feeling of disgust; mule-drivers wax wrath, ply the goad furiously, and indulge in frightful expletives, and everybody exhibits a restlessness indicative of a general feeling of personal discomfort. But within these gloomy hours, from the rude chimneys of which the smoke curls upward and mingles with the fog, the men are passing the time in the usual games of the camp, in reading, or in discussing "the situation." With a bright fire burning on the hearth, and with every crevice carefully chinked with mud to prevent the ingress of mud and rain, the provident soldier can bid defiance to the inclemency of the weather. But the poor fellows on the picket line! The rain may fall in torrents, his clothing may be saturated with water, but the usual vigilance must be maintained, for a moment's carelessness on the part of a picket might bring disaster on the whole army.

Last night extraordinary quiet reigned along the lines. Fort Hell neglected to open its customary cannonade, and only at long intervals the dull report of the sharpshooters' rifle came from the picket line.

IS THE ARMY IN WINTER QUARTERS?

Although the troops have taken the usual measures to make themselves comfortable, it is not by any means conclusive evidence that the army will remain in its present location for the winter. There are, on the contrary, reasons for believing that it will be actively employed previous to the entering of winter, but of the nature of its intended operations, it would be unpropitious to speculate. The present incident, however, may inaugurate the opening of the winter season, in which event, not only defensive operations, but also, it is anticipated.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

Before this reaches the readers of THE TRIBUNE, they will undoubtedly have learned of the whereabouts of Sherman's army. Among the troops here the most intense anxiety is manifested to hear the particulars of Sherman's mysterious movements, and the daily papers are eagerly scanned for information on this all-absorbing subject. That the Rebel chief has withdrawn a considerable portion of the army in front of the city of Petersburg, and that the diminution of his forces may necessitate the abandonment of Petersburg at any hour, is generally believed. But the rumor of the evacuation of the town has been so often put in circulation that many are slow to credit this last report, which comes in this instance based upon what ought to be considered trustworthy information.

AFFAIRS AT CITY POINT.

Since the completion of the new railroad along our entire line, the former scene of wagon trains crowded into every available nook below the bluff, has disappeared, the cars transporting supplies to the different stations from whence it is distributed among the troops at the front. The scene is, however, an animated one; a variety of business associations being there represented. A hotel, capable of accommodating two hundred and fifty persons, is in successful operation, and a host and hostess, a soldier, a jeweler, a dentist, sutler, marketman, restaurateur and newspaper dealer, all seem to be driving a thriving business. The store of Mr. A. A. McGuffey, "the sutler prince," is worthy of special notice as the most extensive of similar establishments in the army. Besides the articles ordinarily sold by sutlers, Mr. McGuffey furnishes in quantities to suit purchasers, flour, sugar and nails, and also keeps in connection with his store, a market, where he has constantly on hand fresh meats, fish, oysters, poultry, game, vegetables, and almost every delicacy found in the city markets. A force of a dozen clerks is kept busily engaged in attending to the throng of customers, and the receipts of the firm daily amount to thousands of dollars.

FROM GRANT AND SHERMAN.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Nov. 24, 1864.
The rumors of movements in front of Richmond which have been in circulation for several days, are unfounded.

A letter from City Point dated yesterday, says that Richmond papers of Tuesday have accounts of Sherman's movements, although not of a very definite character. The head of his column was reported to be within eighteen miles of Macdonald and advancing in that direction.

Information similar to this was telegraphed from this city last night as the latest and most important information yesterday in the possession of the Government. It may be further stated that Rebel telegraphic communication was open only as far as Millidgeville, beyond which place the lines seem to have been interrupted, probably by Sherman's cavalry. The letter adds that the Richmond papers contain nothing else of importance.

Our authorities have at present no means of ascertaining news of Sherman's progress except through Rebel papers.

This statement may prove valuable in assisting to determine the degree of credit to be attached to mere published rumors or speculations in connection with his movements, apart from what appears in the Southern prints, or as obtained from authentic sources.

About twenty deserters came into our lines on Tuesday night. They stated that they had just heard of Lincoln's reelection, and, having lost all hope of a speedy peace, determined to fight no longer, and, though their officers endeavored to keep the result of the Presidential election from them as long as possible, they finally learned the fact from some of our papers.

The circulation of our newspapers within the enemy's lines has often been of the greatest service to us in this war. The strictest orders against exclamation of papers prevail in the Army of the Potomac, while in Gen. Butler's department there seems to be no restriction on the subject.

About one hundred deserters were sent away from City Point yesterday, on the Washington boat.

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI.

CAIRO, Wednesday, Nov. 23, 1864.

Three steamers from Memphis the 22d inst. brought three hundred and fifty-five bales of cotton for St. Louis, two hundred and fifty bales of cotton for St. Louis, and one hundred bales of cotton for St. Louis.

Nearly all the Confederates from various parts of Tennessee and Mississippi in Memphis were arrested on Monday and Tuesday last. They came to seek cotton, or procure supplies, under the impression they could go back. It was thought that so many able-bodied men could not live in the Confederacy without being identified with the Rebel army. So the Commanding General ordered the arrest of every countryman in the city, when it was found that the majority of them were Rebel soldiers, and two or three of them were officers. Many had families. Some of them were subsequently released, as they proved to be peaceable citizens living in the country, and were sent to Memphis, and had released the Rebel army.

One hundred and fifty Texan conscripts crossed the Mississippi River at Union Point, four days since, for the Rebel Army of the Mississippi.

FROM KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Wednesday, Nov. 23, 1864.

After Gillem's recent defeat, Breckinridge advanced to Strawberry Plains and Blair's Cross Roads, threatening Knoxville and Cumberland Gap. On the 21st Breckinridge advanced to Powell's Bridge, six miles from Cumberland Gap, and there was heavy fighting all day.

Breckinridge was driven out from Lexington with a strong force to protect the Kentucky River from anticipated invasion by Breckinridge's forces.

New-York

VOL. XXIV.....NO. 7,376.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1864.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

FROM GEN. SHERIDAN'S ARMY.

Special Dispatch to THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Nov. 24, 1864.

Your correspondent sends from Sheridan today that Merritt's and Powell's divisions of cavalry left on a reconnaissance up the valley on Monday to discover the whereabouts of the enemy. When at a point apparently between New-Market and Harrisonburg, heavy cannonading was heard, supposed to be an attack upon a Rebel scouting party of rear guard. From contrabands and others it is ascertained that Early has been leading his men on the cars for several days and hurrying them towards Richmond. Under date of 23d your correspondent further writes:

"A large contingent of trucks, loaded with other, some accounts say forty wagon-loads, but probably enough for one good mouthful for the boys on Thanksgiving Day, has arrived here for the army. Col. Hubbell several days since received advice of their shipment. The weather is favorably cold to preserve them until they can be served up. The distribution will be made by the Sanitary Commission as soon as possible. The soldiers will have a good time, and will remember the dear ones at home with a really thankful heart. The railroad is completed to within twenty miles of Winchester, and cars will be running there in two days. The weather has changed to an almost Siberian temperature, roads correspondingly hard and favorable for travel. All quiet along the Potomac."

THE NEW POSITION—POWELL'S BRILLIANT SUCCESS—SHERIDAN AT THE FRONT—DEATH OF COL. JOHN MARSHALL, A GRANDSON OF CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL—GRAPHIC PARTICULARS OF THE AFFAIR—SHERIDAN'S HEADQUARTERS.

Correspondence of THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR WINCHESTER, VA.,
Nov. 16, 1864.

It is well known that our army now covers Winchester, by occupying the line of the Opequan Creek five miles south of the town, the only line, it is thought, on which the place is easily defensible. It is ten miles north of our former line at Cedar Creek, and the space between is an admirable baiting ground, on which the enemy, however, dare not set his foot after his late experience, for fear the trap will unexpectedly spring and fold the arms of our cavalry, which stretch out on either hand, again around him and restore him to the Union in spite of himself.

He has become so shrewd lately under the double-drill of Sheridan to bite any more at a bare hook, and it therefore became necessary on Saturday last to throw out a brigade to the front to bait the along with Powell and Carter, our right and left flankers, could get well on in this, but when they did get in there was such a rattling among the dry bones as the valley of Jehocaph could not equal.

Gen. Powell, in particular, our valiant left flanker, went in with a single eye to the public good (as he has his) and the result of his day's work was the capture of two new 12-pounders, with their caissons and ammunition wagon complete, two ambulances, three beautiful battle flags, one Lieut.-Colonel, two Majors, five Captains, eleven Lieutenants, and about two hundred enlisted men, with horses, saddles, harness, small arms, &c. Averill's old division has thus maintained its reputation for fighting, and its new General has honored the stars with which the Government so recently honored him.

"Bully for you" wrote Terbet in reply to the dispatch informing him that the enemy was driven beyond Front Royal on the left, twenty miles from the place of attack.

Gen. Custer on the right did not accomplish so much, though fighting gallantly all day and fully holding his line. Gen. Sheridan had made his headquarters at Bartonville, the venerable country seat, for more than a century past, of the Burtons who were formerly one of the most wealthy and aristocratic families of Winchester.

The fine old stone mansion was originally built for a fort, and was long occupied as a frontier post in the old times, and often garrisoned against the Indians. Washington himself is said to have slept within its walls.

It stands on the valley floor facing westward, at the crossing of the Opequan, and its massive walls, still bomb-proof, though enlarged and surrounded with everything new and elegant, suggests all that is sturdy and venerable in an American family history.

Its broad lawn, now treeless and wasted, and its beautiful lawn now sere in the twilight of crowded campfires, afford one of the saddest pictures of the desolation of war.

A beautiful child now stands upon the porch, a girl of ten summers, rosy and bright, Fannie Marshall by name, a great granddaughter of the distinguished Chief-Justice of the United States. She clings to the hand of Maj.-Gen. Sheridan, who listens to her prattle, and looks up inquiringly into his face as the sound of distant cannon comes near to warn him he is needed at the front.

Gen. Sheridan is a good-looking man, in spite of the wrinkles of his face which prevail, and by no means the brutal ruffian which he is sometimes represented to be, but a most genial, kind-hearted, amiable man, with a face beaming over with smiles, and a disposition full of humor and even boisterous good nature.

As he stoops to caress the fair child, the human for a moment evidently subdues the heroic; for he lingers at the parting as if he knew, what the child probably does not, that her father (Col. John Marshall, of the Rebel army) is the gallant officer who so fiercely pressed forward the Rebel artillery, already within sight of his homestead, and whom it is his duty to sweep from the very hearthstone of his family.

On one of the Rebel troopers, evidently urged by more than ordinary zeal and impetuosity, Charge follows charge and volley answers volley. Our breast is falling, the line wavers; even Custer is forced back; and the Rebel father rushes homeward to his wife and child.

A strange light kindles in Sheridan's eye. He no longer smiles, but his face is stern and his hand is on his sword. He looks up inquiringly into his face as the sound of distant cannon comes near to warn him he is needed at the front.

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FROM GENERAL SHERMAN.

Philadelphia, Thursday, Nov. 24, 1864.

It is rumored here that information has been received at Washington that Gen. Sherman has been notified by Gov. Brown that Georgia, Alabama, and another State had determined to return to the Union, and that Sherman had halted in his movement; also, that Stephens desired to meet a commissioner from the United States in Canada.

The Evening Bulletin, in an extra, announces that Sherman has captured Macon, with many prisoners.

Sherman's Orders for the March.

HIGH, MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
IN THE FIELD, KINGSTON, GA., Nov. 9, 1864.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDER NO. 120.—I. For the purpose of military operations this army is divided into two wings, viz: The right wing, Major-General O. O. Howard commanding, the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps; the left wing, Major-General H. W. Slocum commanding, the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps.

II. The habitual order of march will be, whenever practicable, by four regiments, as nearly parallel as possible, and converging at points hereafter to be indicated in orders. The cavalry, Brigadier-General Kilpatrick commanding, will receive special orders from the Commander-in-Chief.

III. There will be no general trains of supplies, but each corps will have its ammunition and provision train, distributed habitually as follows: Behind each regiment should follow one wagon and one ambulance; behind each brigade should follow a due proportion of ammunition wagons, provision wagons and ambulances.

In case of danger, each army corps should change this order of march by having its advance and rear brigade unencumbered by wheels. The separate columns will start habitually at seven a. m., and make about fifteen miles per day, unless otherwise fixed in orders.

IV. The army will forage liberally on the country during the march. To this end, each brigade commander will organize a good and sufficient foraging party, under the command of one or more discreet officers, who will gather near the route traveled, corn or forage of any kind, meat of any kind, vegetables, corn-meal, or whatever is needed by the command; aiming at all times to keep in the wagon trains at least four days' provisions for the command and three days' forage.

V. To army corps commanders is intrusted the power to destroy mills, houses, cotton gins, &c., and for them this general principle is laid down: In districts and neighborhoods where the army is unopposed, no destruction of such property should be permitted, but should guerrillas or bushwhackers molest our march, or should the inhabitants burn bridges, obstruct roads, or otherwise manifest local hostility, then army corps commanders should order and enforce a destruction of such property, according to the measure of each locality.

VI. As for horses, mules, wagons, &c., belonging to the inhabitants, the cavalry and artillery may appropriate freely and without limit; discriminating, however, between the rich, who are usually hostile, and the poor or neutrals, who are usually friendly. Foraging parties may also take mules or horses to replace the pack animals of their trains, or to serve as pack mules for the regiments or brigades. In all foraging, of whatever kind, the parties engaged will refrain from abusive or threatening language, &c., and may, when the officer in command thinks proper, give written notices of the facts, but no reprisals; and they will endeavor to leave with each family a reasonable portion for their maintenance.

VII. Negroes who are able-bodied and can be of service to the Federal cause, may be taken along; but the question of their service is a very important one, and that their first duty is to see to those who bear arms.

VIII. The organization of a good pioneer battalion for each corps, composed, if possible, of negroes, should be attended to. This battalion should follow the advance guard, should repair roads and double them if possible, so that the columns will not be delayed after reaching bad places. Also, army commanders should study the habit of giving to the artillery and wagons the road, and marching their troops on one side, and also instruct their troops to assist wagons at steep hills or bad crossings of streams.

IX. Captain C. M. Poe, Chief Engineer, will assign to each wing of the army a pontoon train, fully equipped and organized, and the commanders thereof will see to its being properly protected at all times.

By order of Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN.
L. M. DARTON, Aid-de-Camp.

Revision of the Enrollment Lists.

The following is Governor Seymour's proclamation upon this subject, briefly adapted to be telegraphed a day or two hence:

I have this day received a request from Provost-Marshal-General Fry, dated the 15th inst., that I will take such steps as will induce State, municipal and other local authorities to present and certify to the proper authorities, to cooperate with the officers of this Bureau, in securing an accurate enumeration of the persons liable to military duty in the several districts of this State.

The object of this request is to get a correct quota for future drafts to serve against the war from the State. It is the duty of the Executive to see that all are enrolled who are liable under the law for drafting soldiers into the service of the United States.

I therefore urge upon all citizens immediate attention to this subject. When the roll is made it will be too late to correct errors.

Heretofore, when I have objected to the excessive quotas of the districts, it has been found that there was a lack of vigilance on the part of our people in making timely corrections of these lists.

If the names of those not liable to duty are enrolled, the quotas which districts will be compelled to furnish, will be unduly increased, although the persons thus improperly put upon the lists may be saved from the draft. On the other hand, if the names of those who are liable to duty are omitted, it will make greater claims against those whose names are put into the lottery of the conscription.

If citizens or officials will not attend to their duty in this matter they must not complain of the injustice of the draft. It is the duty of the Executive to see that all are enrolled who are liable under the law for drafting soldiers into the service of the United States.

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LATEST FROM REBELDOM.

Silence About Sherman's Movements—The Tallahassee Reported Wrecked in the Cape Fear River.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—We have received The Richmond Sentinel and other Southern papers of Monday, from which we make the following summary of news:

The Sentinel says: "The enemy are without information as to Gen. Sherman's movements, and we have no intention of enlightening them on that subject."

A telegram to Gen. Grant, from City Point, says: "The Richmond papers received here, of the 23d, are entirely barren of news."

THE TALLAHASSEE RUNS AROUND. We learn from authority direct from Richmond that the private Tallahassee, on running up the Cape Fear River the last time, was chased by our gunboats, and was accidentally run on a sand bar by her pilot, and her gun, cargo, &c., were all taken off by the Union gunboats, and the ship was finally abandoned. She will probably prove a total loss.

The Latest from Georgia. SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS—A WARM RECEPTION AWAITING THE INVADERS.

MACON, Nov. 15.—The excitement in this city has somewhat subsided.

No definite information of the whereabouts of the enemy has yet been received. The city has been kept in a state of high tension, and the people are waiting for the enemy to appear.

They will need a warm reception if they attempt to come here.

MACON, Nov. 13.—The military authorities are active and vigilant, and every man is under arms. Confidence is being restored.

The enemy is believed to be on our right, distant about thirty miles. The city will be defended to the last.

THE WAR IN GEORGIA. From The Richmond Examiner, Nov. 21.

A press telegram informs us that Sherman was supposed to be at or near Griffin, Ga., on Friday last. Griffin is in Spalding county, Ga., sixty-eight miles northwest of Millidgeville, where the Rebels have their headquarters. The city is situated on the Georgia and Atlantic Railroad, and is a very important point.

The Rebels are believed to be on our right, distant about thirty miles. The city will be defended to the last.

THE TWO ARMIES AT THE SOUTH. From The Richmond Dispatch, Nov. 21.

There is not much news to be gleaned from the Georgia papers. The Rebels are believed to be on our right, distant about thirty miles. The city will be defended to the last.

On Friday night the enemy made an effort to recapture the position and reestablish their picket line, but were repulsed with loss. They are believed to have retreated to the north.

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PRICE FOUR CENTS.

When the North submitted to a Convention of the States on the basis of peace, they would be prepared to defend their independence. There was no middle ground for us; it was up or independence or slavery.

Our only safety was in our Government showing a better appreciation of the dangers which environ us in our struggle for independence, and putting forth all its power and resources to meet the crisis. There was no middle ground for us; it was up or independence or slavery.

Mr. J. T. Leach (N. C.) said that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Staples) had said that, in a certain event he would be willing to blot out the last remnants of State sovereignty. He wished to know if such a monstrous proposition was ever advanced by Gen. Washington.

Mr. Leach was a State rights man, and he could not vote for the resolution which looked to the conscription of State officers.

North Carolina, continued Mr. Leach, had come in for her share of the remainder of the war. She was now in the hands of the Union. She stood ready to vindicate North Carolina. She had given in this war more than one hundred and eighty thousand men, which was more, in proportion to her population, than any other State in the Union. North and South. The mortality statistics of the war show, too, that North Carolina had lost one and a third per cent of her troops, while Virginia had lost a little over one-half per cent.

It was a great thing for them to have having in the hands of the Union the evidence of North Carolina not having done her whole duty in this war. A great thing for them to have having in the hands of the Union the evidence of North Carolina not having done her whole duty in this war.

Gen. Brown and Vice-President Stephens dared to differ from the majority. He wished to say that he believed every word that had been uttered by Gen. Stephens. If that be the case he asked the poor privilege of being hanged with them.

Mr. Miles (N. C.) said that it was a painful source of regret to him that he could not vote in the legislative assembly of his State at a time like this. Our only hope of success in this struggle was the closest and most fraternal union among ourselves. Exasperation and division could only be fatal to our cause. It was, therefore, a great thing for them to have having in the hands of the Union the evidence of North Carolina not having done her whole duty in this war.

Mr. Leach had never heard a word uttered on that subject of North Carolina that was calculated to wound the sensibilities of any man. No one wished to see North Carolina in a position of inferiority. He believed that to institute comparisons of what such and such States had done was in bad taste, and would produce no good. The Military Commission had been created by the Congress of the United States, and it was a thing to say that the State had done her best, and he would cheerfully admit that North Carolina had done as well as any.

Mr. Miles said he regretted to hear this talk about "conscription." "Conscription of States," &c. He believed that it could only injure us. It would encourage the enemy in the prosecution of the war, stimulate them to greater efforts, while it would do us no good. He believed that it was a thing to say that the State had done her best, and he would cheerfully admit that North Carolina had done as well as any.

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